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AN OPEN SECRET

By MARGARET C. QUINBY

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"I am sorry, Helen, to have been obliged to ask you to come to the office to execute these papers, but you and I are not the only ones concerned. However, I have got matters in such shape that all can be attended to right here."

"Thank you, guardy."
"Now if you will sign here and here and here— There; the transfer has been effected, and you are the possessor of your property, to do with it as you like."

"Weren't you rather young for mother to put all my inheritance in your hands?"

"I was only twenty-seven, but I had had my profession four years, and— well, your mother was inclined to—"
"She was very fond of you."
"You don't know anything about that. You were too young to notice her partiality for me."

"Girls of twelve to thirteen are usually set down as not knowing anything. Don't you believe it. When I was thirteen I knew a lot. Mother used to talk to me about you, and I knew very well what she thought of you. That's the reason she left all my property in your hands. She told me all about that too. She said to me: 'Helen, Jim is not only honest, but he's smart. I'd rather trust him to handle your property after I'm gone than many older men.'"

"She was a mighty good woman, your mother. After what you have said I can't compliment her intelligence without directly complimenting myself."

"She told me a great deal more, too—that is, when she made the will she had an object in making you my guardian."

"What object?"

"That would be telling."

"Did she forbid you to tell me?"

"No."

"Then why don't you tell?"

"Because I'm not going to do it."

"There's no getting around that reason. There are no promises, no deductions, no conclusions. I call that fat reasoning."

"And I call it my own individual reasoning."

"Rather it is woman's reasoning. I must discover some method of getting it out of you."

"How are you going to do it?"

"That would be telling."

"Oh, I'm to be hoodwinked into telling you my secret."

"So it is a secret! Well, how many know it?"

"Only I."

"Who would be most interested to know it?"

"Don't you wish you knew?" (making a wry face.)

"Was this object of your mother solely for your benefit, comfort, pleasure?"

"Well, that depends."

"On what?"

"Whether it would give comfort or pleasure to some one else."

"Now we are getting on."

"Is this a twenty question game?"

"It is my method of getting your secret."

"Oh, well, go on!"

"Is this other person masculine or feminine?"

"That's not fair. It's a direct question. I decline to answer it."

"You might as well have admitted that the reply, if made, would be masculine."

"How do you make that out?"

"I'm not submitting to a process; it is you. Having learned that this other person who would be interested in your secret is masculine, perhaps I can find out more about him by learning his age. Is he old, middle aged or young?"

"Young."

He started. There was a look of disappointment on his face.

"I would divide a man's life into three sections—young from his birth to thirty, middle aged from thirty to fifty, old from then till death."

"I wouldn't divide it that way. A man is young till forty-five."

He drew a breath of relief and went on catching his breath, but took another tack.

"Would this party?"

"He isn't a party; he's a man."

"Would this man who would be interested in this secret be interested in it peculiarly?"

"No."

Again the man started and looked disappointed.

"Then he could not be interested in you, because you have a fortune."

"Oh, I didn't mean that. He would not love me for my—"

She stopped short and blushed.

The questioner was happy. He had gained an important point. In fact, he had learned the whole secret, of which he had been reasonably sure at the first, but had from two of her replies received a bad scare.

"I think," he said, "that I'll try to learn this secret on another occasion. Will you be at home this evening?"

"I suppose so."

"Well, I'll drop in about half past 8. You are so smart about it that I haven't much hope of worming the secret out of you, but I can still try, you know."

"Yes, you can try."

He called the same evening, but it was she who learned his secret, not he hers. When he left her they were engaged.

VOICE AND LEADER OF THE WORLD

As long ago as the last half of the eighteenth century it was the press that molded public opinion. The famous "Letters of Junius" started the wave that finally resulted in widespread reforms in England. The "Rights of Man" and other pamphlets had a prodigious circulation and exerted an immeasurable influence toward the same ends.

A little book, "Common Sense," set the colonies on fire for independence, and the printing of Patrick Henry's and Samuel Adams' speeches, of Franklin's and other papers and of Thomas Paine's "Crisis" was a powerful aid in the American Revolution.

It was the writings of Voltaire and Rousseau and the news of our own war for independence that brought on the revolution in France. "Uncle Tom's Cabin," which was first published in a newspaper, had tremendous influence in freeing the slave.

IN THE PRESENT DAY AN ALERT, VIGOROUS AND COURAGEOUS PRESS WILL BE FOUND BEHIND EVERY POLITICAL UP-RISING, EVERY ADVANCE MOVEMENT.

WHO CAN MEASURE THE POWER OF A GREELEY? At one period the London Times swayed the diplomacy of Europe. The American newspapers and magazines are largely responsible for the present transformation of political thought in the United States.

The press, which was a power 150 years ago, has become all potent today. IT IS THE VOICE AND LEADER OF THE WORLD. Only by following it can one keep abreast of the movements of our own time.

TAKE THIS NEWSPAPER.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE Farmers and Merchants Bank

of Stayton, in the State of Oregon, at the close of business Feb. 20, 1912.

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts	\$ 40,232.48
Overdrafts secured and unsecured	73.39
Banking house	6,445.30
Furniture and fixtures	2,780.81
Due from approved reserve banks	15,183.86
Checks and other cash items	408.45
Cash on hand	8,400.59
Expenses	2,933.48
TOTAL	\$ 76,478.31

LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock paid in	\$ 25,000.00
Undivided profits	1,496.46
Individual deposits subject to check	35,424.35
Demand certificates of deposit	9,810.00
Time certificates of deposit	4,777.50
TOTAL	\$ 76,478.31

I, S. L. STEWART, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
S. L. STEWART, Cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of Feb., 1912.
E. B. WATERS
Notary Public

Correct—Attest:
A. D. GARDNER,
L. S. LAMBERT,
Directors.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE Stayton State Bank

at Stayton, in the State of Oregon, at the close of business, Feb. 20th, 1912.

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts	\$ 30,110.91
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	162.26
Bonds and warrants	10,000.00
Banking house	5,500.00
Furniture and fixtures	2,500.00
Other real estate owned	33,332.00
Due from banks (not reserve banks)	733.06
Due from approved reserve banks	7,851.13
Checks and other cash items	870.84
Cash on hand	5,887.16
Expenses	328.15
Other resources	870.00
TOTAL	\$123,133.51

LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock paid in	\$ 25,000.00
Undivided Profits	183.50
Individual deposits subject to check	70,275.00
Time certificates of deposit	18,674.41
Notes and bills rediscounted	9,000.00
TOTAL	\$123,133.51

I, W. RICHARDSON, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
W. RICHARDSON, Cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of Feb., 1912.
S. L. STEWART
Notary Public

Correct—Attest:
GEO. SPANGLER,
LEE TATE,
Directors.

LIFE ON A BOER FARM.

The House a Chamber of Horrors, the Housewife Hopelessly Dull.

An American woman traveling in South Africa was detained by floods and compelled to spend a month on a Boer farm. "The first night's monotony," she writes, "was broken by the roaring of the ostriches under our window. We thought it was a tame lion."

"The farmer and his family lived chiefly on sour bread and sour skim-milk, and I was therefore hungry most of the time, and the ripe figs hanging in clusters were pretty alluring. After pushing back the skin of the fig and enjoying the soft fruit, with its tropical taste, I had a refreshing night's sleep, only to awaken in the morning pretty well scared, for my tongue was so swollen and black that I could not talk."

"The Boer wife laughed and enjoyed my discomfort and explained that the skin of the fig had numerous fine thorns and I had not been careful to remove them when eating."
"When I told the farmer's wife that I liked buttermilk in quantity I noticed that I had a cupful or so given me, but she threw it by the painful to the pigs. They were of far more consequence to her than I, for they would stay longer with her and were her familiars. I was not."

"Then, again, when I was hungry for butter on my bread a white, clammy substance made from sheep's tail fat was handed to me, and I could not allow the farmer's wife to see me quiver. She sold her butter in the village close by at 75 cents a pound, more or less. Sour bread and green strawberries (plenty of them) were considered good enough."

"This Boer family was one of the wealthiest of their kind. There was not a ripple of fun or exuberant life in anything but the live stock. Conversation was a dead language—unknown."
"The women are mute beings, accepting their destiny with deep stillness. The wife gives up her strength to the limit, and dies after giving birth to a dozen or more children, to make way for wife No. 2, who gives another dozen children to her country. Her adobe house, with its dirt floor made of ant hill clay mixed with beef gall, is a chamber of horrors to an American traveler."

"The farmer depends upon his ten or eighteen children of all sizes to help him. A Kaffir as an employee is dependable as the winds that blow. Yet that Kaffir is the hired man in the mines and elsewhere in South Africa. The white man as a day laborer is a general failure. He cannot be worked in droves like the Kaffir from the interior, whose language, in clicks and vowel sounds, is hardly human."

"The Boer is not long lived. One seldom met an aged Boer of the old stock. Oom Paul Kruger, who was seventy-five years old when he died, was an exception. Hatred toward the uitlander and the lust for gold and power were what kept the fires of life burning at white heat within him."

Health Culture.

Oratory No Longer Soars.
"Oratory is a lost art," said a Cleveland man the other day. "I used to go down to the courts just to hear the lurid speeches. Nothing doing in that line any more. The lawyers do not talk about flowers, rainbows and sunbeams today."

"There was a lawyer in Cleveland years ago—Bill Robinson was his name—whose addresses to a jury always attracted a crowd. I will forever remember one of his sentences. The man he was fighting in the suit had a reputation as something of a miser."

"Who is this man—who is he?" thundered Robinson. "You know and I know that he boils his potatoes in widows' tears."

"This phrase caught the jury, and Robinson won his case, but one does not hear any such oratory as that nowadays."—Case and Comment.

The Real Trouble.
"Oh, doctor," sighed the patient, "I am so glad you have come. I feel dreadful, and I don't know what in the world is the matter with me. My husband says it is nothing but nervous indigestion, but his mother is positive I am going to have appendicitis, and my mother declares I have intermittent fever, and my sister says it looks to her like creeping paralysis, and Aunt Henrietta says I've got malaria. What do you think I've got, doctor?"

"Well," frowns the physician, "from these symptoms I should say offhand that you have too many relatives."—Chicago Post.

Dancing and Kissing.
The old time ballroom smacked of the kiss. Without it the dance was incomplete. It was claimed as a right. And given freely. The very idea of such an omission would have caused a strike, as these lines foretold:
But some reply, What foole would daunce If that when daunce is doone He may not have at lady's lips That which in daunce he woon?
—London Tatler.

Jolting His Lawyer.
Church—What was the name you called your lawyer?
Gotham—Necessity.
"But that's a funny name. Why do you call him Necessity?"
"Because he knows no law."—Yonkers Statesman.

A Matter of Fractions.
Biggs—My half brother is engaged to my wife's half sister. Diggs—When will they be made one?—Boston Transcript.

An evil speaker only wants an opportunity to become an eridoeer.—Quintilla.



Baptist

Preaching every Sunday at 11 a. m. and at 7:30 p. m. by Rev. A. C. Eaton. Sunday school at 10 a. m., A. J. Caldwell, supt. B. Y. P. U. at 6:30 p. m. Mrs. Eaton, president.

Catholic

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, Stayton; Rev. A. Lainck, priest in charge. High mass second fourth and fifth Sundays 8:30 a. m. Priest's address: Sublimity, Oregon.
T. BONIFACE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, Sublimity; Rev. A. Lainck, rector; Low mass 8 a. m., high mass 10:30 a. m., first and third Sundays in the month; high mass 10:30 a. m., second, fourth and fifth Sundays. Vespers at eventide.

Christian

Services will be held every Sunday. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Sunday school at 10 a. m., Mrs. W. H. Hobson, superintendent. Y. P. S. C. E. at 7:30 p. m., W. A. Weddle, president. Ladies Aid society meets each Wednesday at 2:30 p. m., Mrs. Frank Letley, president.

Methodist

Methodist Episcopal Church, order of services: Sunday school at 10 a. m., A. S. Pancoast, superintendent. Preaching service 11 a. m., Epworth League 6:45 p. m., Ward Holford, President. Preaching service 7:45. Prayer meeting every Wednesday evening at 7:45. Business meeting of Epworth League the first Thursday of each month.—Rev. Mace Pastor.

SUMMONS

In the Circuit Court of Oregon for Marion County. Department No. 1.

State of Oregon, Plaintiff, vs. E. B. Fletcher, Administrator of the estate of John Cashion, deceased, and all other persons interested or concerned in said estate, defendants.

To E. B. Fletcher, and all those interested or concerned in the estate of John Cashion, deceased—

In the name of the State of Oregon: You and each of you are hereby required to appear and answer the information filed in the above entitled court and cause within six weeks from the date of the first publication of this summons, to wit: the 1st day of February, 1912, and if you fail to appear and answer said information, plaintiff will apply to the court for an order declaring the sum of \$84.52, the amount now in the hands of the administrator of the estate of the said John Cashion, to be escheated to and vested in the State of Oregon.

You are further notified that this summons is served upon you by publication thereof in the Stayton Mail, a weekly newspaper of general circulation published in Marion County, Oregon, pursuant to the order of the honorable Wm. Galloway, Judge of this court, made on the 25th day of January, 1912, and you are notified that the date of the first publication of this summons is the 1st day of February, 1912, and the last publication thereof will be on the 14th day of March, 1912. John H. McNary, District Attorney for Marion County, Oregon. By W. C. Winslow, Deputy Dist. Atty., Attorneys for plaintiff.

SUMMONS.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the county of Marion.

Charles Ney, Plaintiff, vs. Nettie Ney, Defendant.

To Nettie Ney, the above named defendant,

In the name of the State of Oregon, you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled Court and cause on or before the 29th day of February, 1912, and if you fail to answer for want thereof the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief prayed for in his complaint to wit: That the bonds of matrimony existing between the plaintiff and defendant be dissolved and that he have such other and further relief as to the Court may seem just and equitable.

This summons is served upon you by publication in the Stayton Mail by order of Hon. Percy R. Kelly, judge of the above named Court, dated on the 17th day of January, 1912, the first publication to be on the 18th day of January, 1912, and you are required to appear and answer on or before the 29th day of February, 1912.

JAS. G. HELTZEL,
Attorney for Plaintiff.

W. A. WEDDLE

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